# pcgn
**The Permanent Committee on Geographical Names**

**PCGN Meeting Minutes, Monday 28th March 2022**
**Royal Geographical Society, London**

**Present**
PCGN Staff
Defence Geographic Centre (JFIG-DGC)
Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)
BBC Monitoring (BBCM)
Apologies for absence: UKHO, Royal Scottish Geographical Society, Defence Language Service and Ordnance Survey.

1.  Head PCGN welcomed the Committee members to the first in-person meeting since the start of the pandemic.

2.  There were no Minutes of the 206th meeting to consider.

3.  Head PCGN briefly described highlights of the work completed by the PCGN staff since the last meeting.

4.  Head PCGN described PCGN engagement in the virtual Session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN) in May 2021.

5.  BGN and PCGN had held a virtual meeting in September 2021. Policy papers covering a wide range of subjects had been prepared and discussed. Arrangements for the next BGN/PCGN Conference were currently being discussed.

6.  PCGN described their work with the ISO 3166 on country and subdivision codes, and on ISO's Working Group on Conversion of Written Languages.

7.  DGC described their work updating various map products, Country Insights and Atlases. The Geo International Boundaries Dataset (GIBD) had been updated.

8.  FCDO reported a greater focus on humanitarian issues since the Foreign Office's merger with the Department for International Development. A three-year update of the complete series of FCDO briefing maps had begun two years ago, and would be completed over the coming year. PCGN had provided names advice for the updated maps. FCDO reported there would be changes to the FCDO Travel Advice programme.

9. BBCM reminded the Committee that BBCM were now required to follow names as used by the wider BBC. It was also reported that BBCM now have Afghanistan and China teams in the office.

10. PCGN presented a Toponymic Factfile on Finland as a representative example of the Factfiles completed by PCGN over the previous two years. All Toponymic Factfiles were available on PCGN's [website](#).

11. PCGN reported on new top-level entities that had been added by the US Board on Geographic Names into the GeoNET Names Server (GNS), all areas for which the US took no view on sovereignty. Work was ongoing on the development of Uighur and Neo Tifinagh romanization systems. The notes of the BGN/PCGN Kurdish romanization system were being updated, to better facilitate application of the system to different varieties of Kurdish.

12. The was nothing to report under Any Other Business.

13. Head PCGN thanked the Committee members for the participation and closed the meeting.